



# NEWS RELEASE

## CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE

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Contact: Caren Daniels-Meade  
916-653-6575

### **Secretary of State McPherson Reports Three Proposed Initiatives Enter Circulation**

1. *Regulation of Electric Service Providers. Initiative Statute.*
2. *Urban Tribal Casinos. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute.*
3. *Prohibition Against Defined Benefit Public Pensions. Exception for University of California. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute.*

SACRAMENTO, CA --- Secretary of State Bruce McPherson announced today that the proponents of three new initiatives may begin collecting petition signatures for their measures.

The Attorney General's official titles and summaries follow:

#### **REGULATION OF ELECTRIC SERVICE PROVIDERS. INITIATIVE STATUTE.**

Subjects electric service providers, as defined, to control and regulation by California Public Utilities Commission. Imposes restrictions on electricity customers' ability to switch from private utilities to other electric providers. Provides that registration by electric service providers with Commission constitutes providers' consent to regulation. Requires all retail electric sellers, instead of just private utilities, to increase renewable energy resource procurement by at least 1% each year, with 20% of retail sales procured from renewable energy by 2010, instead of current requirement of 2017. Imposes duties on Commission, Legislature and electrical providers.

Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: Annual state costs of up to \$4 million for regulatory activities of the California Public Utilities Commission. These costs would be fully offset by fee revenues. Unknown impact on state and local costs and revenues, as the measure's impact on retail electricity rates is uncertain.

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1132 and the Attorney General's tracking number is SA2005RF0054.

The proponents, Robert Finkelstein and Michel Peter Florio, of The Utility Reform Network, must collect 373,816 signatures of registered voters, equal to five percent of the total votes cast for governor in the 2002 gubernatorial election, in order to qualify the measure. The 150-day deadline to circulate petitions for this measure is September 1, 2005. The initiative proponents can be reached at 415-929-8876.

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**URBAN TRIBAL CASINOS. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AND STATUTE.**

Amends the California Constitution to prohibit tribal casinos in urban areas, as defined, without a two-thirds vote of the Legislature. Excludes from urban casino ban tribal lands eligible for gaming and held by tribe with state-tribal gaming compact in effect as of January 1, 2005. Retains Governor's authority to negotiate tribal compacts for other casinos. Repeals legislation enacted after January 1, 2005, ratifying any compact allowing tribal casinos in urban areas. Makes State's waiver of sovereign immunity inapplicable to compacts, negotiations, disputes concerning urban tribal casinos.

Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: Unknown net fiscal effect on state and local governments from restricting the future development of urban casinos.

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1133 and the Attorney General's tracking number is SA2005RF0056.

The proponents, Thomas Davidoff and Norman La Force, must collect 598,105 signatures of registered voters, equal to eight percent of the total votes cast for governor in the 2002 gubernatorial election, in order to qualify the measure. The 150-day deadline to circulate petitions for this measure is September 1, 2005. The initiative proponents can be reached in care of the law offices of David M. Fried, at 415-764-1765.

**PROHIBITION AGAINST DEFINED BENEFIT PUBLIC PENSIONS. EXCEPTION FOR UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AND STATUTE.**

Prohibits state and local agencies, other than the University of California and its laboratories and affiliates, from providing defined benefit pensions (benefit determined by age, years of service, and salary) to employees hired after 7-1-07. Eliminates death, disability benefits for such employees. Thereafter, permits only defined contribution plans (benefit determined by contributions, earnings, minus expenses). Limits agency's contributions to 6% of employee's salary (9% for police, firefighters, and those not contributing to Social Security). Requires employee contributions when employer contribution exceeds 3% of salary.

Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: Over the long term, major reduction in state and local government retirement costs for employees hired after July 1, 2007, offset to an unknown extent by increased costs for other types of employee compensation. In the shorter term, unknown net impact on public employer costs related to the closing out of existing defined benefit plans. The fiscal effect would depend on the decisions of both retirement boards and existing government employees.

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1134 and the Attorney General's tracking number is SA2005RF0070.

The proponent, Dwight Read, of the Faculty Association of UCLA, must collect 598,105 signatures of registered voters, equal to eight percent of the total votes cast for

governor in the 2002 gubernatorial election, in order to qualify the measure. The 150-day deadline to circulate petitions for this measure is September 1, 2005. The initiative proponent can be reached at 818-341-8664.

For a copy of the complete text, title & summary and circulation calendar of each measure, please contact the Secretary of State's Press Office at 916-653-6575.